

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 12, 2004 LB 559

by Senator Synowiecki. That was FA1460. (Legislative Journal page 606.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Synowiecki, would you update us on your amendment, what your amendment did, or does, rather?

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Yes, Senator Cudaback. My amendment simply tries to address the situations that arise when individuals are here legally under visas and the sort, under immigration law, but they are unable to obtain a Social Security card. And in essence what that would do is prohibit them from obtaining a driver's license under language under LB 559. Senator Cudaback, it's my understanding that the department currently, under rules and regulations, does provide this group of individuals that this impacts with avenues so that they can get a valid operator's license. The problem is, with the language with LB 559, it would make illegal that rules...them rules and regulations that have been adopted by Department of Motor Vehicles. So my amendment was an attempt to address this situation. I think it needs to be noted that this validation process of Social Security numbers is something that is going on now in the Department of Motor Vehicles, and what LB 559 does is put it into statute. I continue to question the need for implementing these rules and regs into statutory authority. I don't think it needs to be done. And as I noted that the department already allows for these instances, these categories of visas who are unable to attain a Social Security number, that they can indeed get a license now. LB 559, the way it's currently written, would make that practice illegal, and the amendment attempts to address this. I know Senator Aguilar, Senator Kruse, and myself, and our staffs have been involved in some discussions. And I know there are some other amendments now pending that attempt to narrow the focus of my amendment. And I suspect I'll ultimately withdraw my amendment, but I'd be interested to hear if there's any debates and so forth with regard to the issues. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. Mr. Clerk, motion on the desk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to